

REMARKS

Claims 6-7 and 9-30 remain in the application. Claims 1-5 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 6, 7 and 20 have been amended.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 6, and 12-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,376,551 to Armbruster (“Armbruster”). Claims 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Armbruster in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,700,828 to Zaccaroli (“Zaccaroli”). Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Armbruster and Zaccaroli in combination with U.S. Patent No. 3,566,045 to Paine (“Paine”). Claims 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Armbruster in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,715,679 to Infosino (“Infosino”).

Claim 6, 7, and 20 have been amended to refer to features found in claim 24, which has been allowed. Claim 8 has been cancelled as being duplicative. In view of these amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6-7 and 9-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

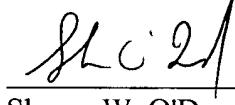
Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4255 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,
KENYON & KENYON LLP

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By:


Shawn W. O'Dowd
Reg. No. 34,687

KENYON & KENYON LLP
1500 K Street, NW
Suite 700
Washington DC, 20005
(202) 220-4200 telephone
(202) 220-4201 facsimile
DC:643100v1